

A

# REVIEW

## OF THE

# STATE

## OF THE

# BRITISH NATION.

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Thursday, December 11. 1707.

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**I** Have been giving my Reasons, Gentlemen, why the present Ministry, by which the Affairs of the Government here have for some Years been managed, ought, according to the Motion published in a late Speech, to be changed, and turned out, or petitioned out, &c. And I was now of Course to tell you according to my Promise, who were fit to be put into their Rooms—But upon second Thoughts, and lest you should not think my former Reasons for dismissing these great People cogent enough, having not enumerated the Persons, except three or four of them; I think to corroborate, as the Learned call it, it will be needful to go on with those Reasons— And tell you in the Gross concerning them all together, why the Ministry, *Quatenus* Ministry, ought really to be turn'd out, &c. And as the Circumstances are very obvious, I need not go far about for Reasons, and therefore in short,

1. The Ministry ought to be turn'd out, because that like false Traytors to our Sovereign Lady, the High Church, which according to the Worthy Dodwell, is the only true Church of England; they have revolted from their Allegiance to the Fundamental Laws of Tyranny and Persecution; and not having the Fear of GOD before their Eyes, but moved by the Instigation of the Devil, have wickedly, maliciously, traiterously, &c. taken up Arms in Behalf of an invading Foreigner, call'd MODERATION, with his two abominable Confederates Toleratation and *Occasional-Conformity*; and having by their aforesaid Rebellion and Treason, oppressed and reduc'd the said High-Church, have in a forcible Manner introduced these Invaders, clothed them with Laws, Acts of Parliament, and all the pretended Sanctions of Civil Authority, to the manifest Terror of Her Majesty's Loyal People, and her best Subjects the High Church.

and to the Ruin and Destruction of their confederated and late flourishing Party the *Jacobites*, who under their Protection were beginning to re-establish the right Interest in the Nation; and this is a good Reason for removing them.

2. This corrupt and wicked Ministry ought to be turn'd out, because as wicked and evil Councillors, they have imposed upon her Majesty, and prevail'd upon her by their Advice to joyn with them against these her afore-said Friends, who were the best Foundation of her Government, and best Support to her Interest, and thereby they have wickedly prevented the good and growing Posture of those Designs, which by our Blessing upon her Majesty's Concurrence, might long ere now have put an End to all the Miseries and Disasters of this unhappy War. (1.) By establishing the said *Dodwellian Church of England* on a full and uninterrupted Authority, and settling a compleat Conformity and Obedience, both to her Doctrine and Discipline, *all the Dissenters* having as despicable Rebels and Vermin of the common Wealth, been effectually crush'd and rooted out. (2.) By surrendering to *France* a few trifling Articles, such as the Safety of remote Princes and States, and the Concern for the Protestant Religion abroad, *Things we have nothing to do with, and will never be able to defend*, and so by putting our selves out of this unhappy Confederacy, give the Nation Peace the shortest Way; all which laudable Designs have been interrupted by this Ministry, and therefore they ought speedily to be removed.

3. This Ministry ought to be changed, for that as wicked and evil Councillors about her Majesty, they have continually advised her Majesty to those unhappy Expressions in her Speeches to Parliament, relating to *Dissenters* and the Toleration, and to Peace and Union, which giving a Liberty to the Misconstructions and false Glosses of these evil Councillors and their Party, have been wrested and changed contrary to her Majesty's pious Intentions, (as we vainly hoped) to the discouraging of the most zealous and most faithful of her Loyal Subjects; who for espousing her true Interest have been opprobriously treated, and branded with the new invented Scandal of *High Flyers*; nor have they rested till they brought her Majesty to espouse the hated Toleration of *Schismaticks*, in such an unheard of Manner, as to promise to maintain it INVOLARLY; till which Word, Care had been taken to put such Interpretation upon all the Promises of that Kind, as might easily have deliver'd her Majesty from all Man-

ner of Bondage or Subjection to the Terms of those State-Speeches; Things which in former Times we have always made easie to our Princes.

4. This abominable Ministry, in whose Management all our Miscarriages center, ought to be forthwith chang'd, for that contrary to the true Intent and Meaning of the Church of *England*, and of all the true Politicks of her Professors, and contrary to her plain Constitution; still according to *Dodwell*; they have with all their cunning and pernicious Arts brought over the Nation by pretended Laws, Statutes, and Acts of Parliament, to foreclose the right Line of our Princes; and excluding the Legal Descent and Lawful Heirs, have hazarded the very Souls of all the *English Nation*, by making them abjure their native Prince; which Matter had it not been vilely and fraudulently dispoined by these evil Councillors, was ready to be proposed by her Majesty's most faithful Subjects of the *High Church*, in a Manner so perfectly agreeable to Justice, that the Lineal Descent of our lawful Princes had been preserv'd, and yet her Majesty's Possession secur'd for her Life: But these wicked Councillors, pretending that this was first to acknowledge the *QUEEN* to be an Usurper, and make her only Tenant for Life, and so have exposed her Person to those that might attempt to shorten THE LEASE; upon such weak and trivial Surmises, and reviving the abhorred Position of Parliamentary Limitations, they have wickedly and abominably transferr'd the Succession of the Crown upon another Dutch Race, whose remote Pretensions have no other Claim, than what is built upon that accursed Principle, which brought to pass the Revolution.

5. These pernicious Councillors ought to be turn'd out with Contempt: for that to the Eminent Hazard of the Church of *England*, still as before understood, they have contrived, carry'd on, and compleated that fatal Confederacy with *Schismaticks* and *Hirelings*, call'd THE UNION: A Treaty, which when by the Interest and Contrivance of the same restless Faction it had frequently been brought upon the Stage in former times, like an untimely Birth, was always made abortive by the constant Vigilance and Application of our pious and zealous Brethren of the *High Church*; and particularly in the first and most Glorious Year of her Majesty's Reign when the Banter of a Treaty began to be brought about again—But so it is, that in this unhappy and pernicious Management these things have been carry'd on with all Sorts of Cunning and Application, and that it is all owing to this



this Ministry, is plainly prov'd, for that the *QUEEN* is a Princess of that consummate Wisdom, as not to do any thing without the Advice of her Ministry.

There are a great many other Reasons to be given, why those People should be dismiss'd, and why they should be changed. I mean of the same Kind with those already named; but I am not for entering into all the Particulars. I hope these may suffice to convince any reasonable Person of it, and I doubt not, but when those whom it may concern, shall meet with these Heads, and duly consider them, Ways and Means may be found out to make the Nation easie in this Case.

But I cannot omit two particular Reasons, why this Matter should be expedited, and why these great People should be put out, with more Speed than usual; which at this time is very material to the Cause we are now pursuing, and these Reasons respect our Successes abroad both Good and Bad.

1. *Our good Successes*: This unhappy Ministry, without whose Advice nothing is done, have not only been the Men under whose Management the great and fatal Articles of *Blenheim* and *Ramellies* were to our terrible Mortification brought to pass; by whose Arts the *German* Princes have been managed, the *Prussian* and *Hessian* Troops sent into *Piedmont*, the Duke of *Savoy* restor'd, the *French* beaten out of *Italy*, the *Swedes* comply'd with in *Germany*, the Duke of *Hannover* prevail'd with to command the Imperial Army, the People of *Neuchâtel* secur'd from the *French*, and a thousand such unhappy Things brought to pass; but which is still worst of all, the Measures of the next Campaign lie so forward in order to retrieve the last, that we are not without just Apprehensions, that if these People proceed in the same Steps they have begun in, they will bring Us and our Friends abroad so low, that it may hereafter be to no Purpose to make Speeches to get them out, and our Cause may be irretrievably lost; and tho' the Instances of this are but too plain, and need very little Illustration, yet the Preparations making for *Spain* to put that young Intruder *Charles III.* in a Posture to recover himself the Assistance they are going to give to the King of *Portugal*, whom we were in Hopes to reduce to a Neutrality, the restoring Affairs on the *Rhine*, and the Resolutions to support the Duke of *Savoy*, are such Articles, as no true *English* High Church Man can be pleas'd with, or acquiesce in; and therefore no Body can blame us for mustering up all our new Friends, and all our old Ones too, if possible to get these People out.

2. *As to our bad Successes*: They are our Arguments to the *Whigs*, and by which we try to cajole them into the old National Error of Murmuring and Discontent; 'tis an Argument *ad Hominem*, to say these People should be turn'd out for Want of Success; for why should unlucky Agents any more than unfaithful Agents be employ'd? Besides, if they are not unlucky to you, they are so to us that are out, and that would fain be in their Places; and they are doubly unlucky to our Cause, of which we have spoken already.

Besides, *Gentlemen-Whigs*, has it not always been the Custom, both in *England* and also at *Constantinople*, to throw by those that meet with Disasters, let the Fault lie where it will? Does not all the World choose to employ the Fortunate, rather than the Brave? And do not our Brethren the *Turks* strangle their Generals, when they lose a Battle? And then, as they say at a Bull-baiting, Come Boy, play another Dog! Tell us of Conduct! When our Ships are lost, we ought to hang our Admirals! When our Money is spent, our Treasurers! When our Designs miscarry, our Secretaries! And when our Armies are beaten, our Generals! 'Tis the only Way to quicken Men in their Duty and encourage honest and valuable Men to serve us; besides, what are forty *Marlbro's*, and *Gallways*, and *Shovels*, in such a Nation as Ours where we have such Choice of Generals, and such a Number of Admirals, in Conduct and Experience excelling all the World? We ought to make nothing to disgrace and throw out such People as they, a Dozen or two at a Time, as often as they do not please us, and that to be as often as ever they want Success.

To go farther, our Misarranges, what are they but the Faults of the People we employ? Who would ever make such a Man as the *E. of R.* General of a Descent, that betraying his Trust, and spending the Nations Money, must lie 3 or 4 Months upon our own Coast, when all the Army was on Board, and the Ships ready to sail, and he spend all that Time and Money for nothing at all, only waiting for a little Wind? Would not the Wind blow fair for your Generals? Ay, 'tis a Sign what Generals you choose—Turn them out, and put in such as the Wind will blow for; that's the Way we are pleading for, and 'twill never be good—Times till you do so—But these are the Men that are put in by our Ministry, and *Hinc ille Lacryma*, we cannot get such People turn'd out—This unhappy Ministry won't do it; no, tho' the Men are such they put in, as can't make a little Wind blow for them—We are like